

REMARKS

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the detailed remarks. Claims 1, 2, 4, and 11 have been amended and claims 3 and 5-10 have been canceled. New claims 12-28 are presented. Accordingly, claims 1, 2, 4, and 11-28 are pending.

Applicant acknowledges a change in inventorship in which inventor Mike Torok is deleted in response to the election of Species A as delineated in the attached.

The enclosed Substitute Specification is being filed pursuant to 37 CFR §1.125 and MPEP 608.01(q). The enclosed Marked-Up Specification showing additions and deletions is a true copy typed identically to the Application as filed. The Substitute Specification includes no new matter and includes the same changes as are indicated in the enclosed Marked-Up Specification.

Claim 2 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112 first paragraph. Applicant respectfully submits that the claim as amended is in proper condition according to §112. Claims 1, 2, and 4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112. Applicant respectfully submits that the claims as amended are in proper condition according to §112.

Claim 11 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by *Kai* (JP02001099739A). *Kai* mounts the balance modifying ring 14 directly to the shaft 20. Claim 11 has been amended to recite a housing rotating at a speed greater than the rotating system. *Kai* cannot meet this limitation

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Kai* (JP02001099739A). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections. *Kai* mounts the balance modifying ring 14 directly to the shaft 20. *Kai* cannot suggest applicants claims for this reason

alone. Furthermore, *Kai* MUST temporarily reduce the rotation of the rotary shaft to change the balance distribution of the ER fluid. [See English Abstract] Such requirement is completely inapplicable to a rotary wing aircraft which cannot selectively slow down the rotor to change the vibration isolation system. *Kai* simply fails to disclose or suggest providing independent rotation of a housing containing the MRF as claimed by Applicant. The claims are properly allowable.

New claims 12-28 recite further features of the present invention which are neither disclosed nor suggested by the cited references and are thus properly allowable.

Please charge \$370 to Deposit Account No. 50-1482, in the name of Carlson, Gaskey & Olds, for 1 claim in excess of 20, 1 additional independent claim, and a one-month extension of time. If any additional fees or extensions of time are required, please charge to Deposit Account No. 50-1482.

Applicant respectfully submits that this case is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a teleconference will facilitate moving this case forward to being issued, Applicant's representative can be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully Submitted,
CARLSON, GASKEY & OLDS, P.C.



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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

These drawings replace the previously filed drawings. No new matter has been added.

Figure 1 has been amended to include a -- PRIOR ART-- legend.

Figures 2, 3a, 3c, 4, and 5 have been amended to make minor corrections to correspond with specification amendments.